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A circular black and white stamp. The text "OIP" is at the top, "EAP" is at the top right, and "OFFICE" is at the bottom right. The date "AUG 14 2006" is in the center. The words "PATENT & TRADEMARK" are at the bottom left.

~~In re~~ Application of:

Examiner: Stephen D. Meier

Group Art Unit: 2853

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August 11, 2006

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

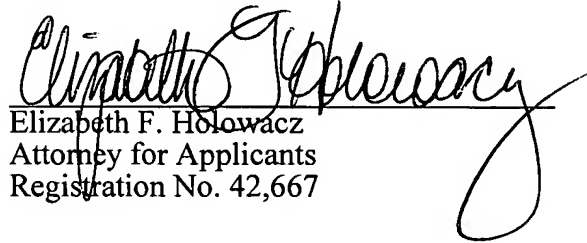
In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the listed non-U.S. patent documents is enclosed.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

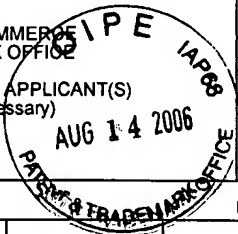
Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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| FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017798 | | APPLICATION NO. 10/534,906 | | |
|  | | | APPLICANT ICHIRO SAITO ET AL. | | | | |
| | | | FILING DATE May 16, 2005 | | GROUP 2853 | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | | 2006/0033778 | 2/16/06 | Shibata et al. | 347 | 59 | |
| | | 2006/0033779 | 2/16/06 | Shibata et al. | 347 | 59 | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT |
| | | 6-286149 | 10/11/94 | Japan | | | abstract |
| | | 0 609 860 | 8/10/94 | EP | | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1